

What's New in Lexington County

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— FROM THE DIRECTOR —

Lexington County Announces \$364 Million in Economic Investment in 2021

The new year is off to a great start on the economic development front here in Lexington County as we celebrate projects that companies large and small launched here during the past year, totaling \$364 million in investment and the creation of 472 new jobs.

COMPANY	TYPE OF PROJECT	NEW JOBS	CAPEX(\$)
Concentrated Active Ingredients & Flavors (CAIF)	Attraction	20	\$5,000,000
Palmetto State Armory	Expansion	150	\$61,700,000
Nephron SC	Expansion	250	\$100,000,000
Home Depot	Expansion	23	Unknown
Allora Solar	Attraction	0	\$100,000,000
Beulah Solar	Attraction	0	\$5,000,000
Wolf Pit Solar	Attraction	0	\$80,000,000
Capital Concrete	Expansion	15	\$5,000,000
Vertical Roots	Expansion	14	\$7,604,080
Total:		472	\$364,304,080

For these projects with County involvement, highlights range from expansions by Nephron Pharmaceuticals expected to create 250 new jobs to Vertical Roots committing to a \$7.6 million project and 14 new jobs as it expands its state-of-the-art hydroponics growing operation for lettuce and other greens at the State Farmers Market. In addition, there's a \$5 million commitment by Concentrated Active Ingredients & Flavors (CAIF) to expand from California with its first East Coast production site for its natural ingredients for dietary and pharmaceutical supplements, with the Port of Charleston being a strong draw.

That diversity continues with three announcements throughout the year from several solar power site developers for a total of \$185 million in investment. Palmetto State Armory also announced a \$61.7 million expansion that will create 150 new jobs, and Capital Concrete is expanding its operations in Lexington County to the tune of 15 jobs and approximately \$5 million in investment. These companies are attracted to Lexington County because of our business-friendly environment, along with our ability to provide a qualified committed workforce from the Midlands region.

We will continue working strategically to keep progress growing. Demand for industrial real estate is at record highs. We are proactively responding by preparing shovel-ready industrial sites with a streamlined permitting process, which will enable companies to quickly create or expand profitable operations as quickly and efficiently as possible.

These are important ways your County of Lexington Department of Economic Development can help further enhance our competitive advantage that has already produced much success. We look forward to reporting even more in the months and years ahead.

Sincerely,



Sarah J. Johnson
Director, Department of Economic Development

— VIDEO FEATURES —



SCEDA SPOTLIGHT

Sarah Johnson, County of Lexington Economic Development Director and Laura Jordan, South Carolina Department of Agriculture talk about agri-business in Lexington County.

WATCH VIDEO



LOT 3 — SAXE GOTHA INDUSTRIAL PARK

Lot 3, located within the Saxe Gotha Industrial Park, boasts:

- 68 developable acres
- Shovel ready
- Interstate frontage
- Rail accessible
- Accessed via 4-lane divided highway
- 1 mile to Interstate
- Accommodates nearly 1M SF

WATCH VIDEO

— ANNOUNCEMENT NEWS —



\$5.9 MILLION INVESTMENT TO CREATE 50 NEW JOBS

[Bentley Pontoons](#), a manufacturer of high-quality, affordable boats, today announced plans to expand operations in Lexington County. The company's \$5.9 million investment will create 50 new jobs.

Headquartered in Lexington County, Bentley Pontoons manufactures many of its own boat components, including furniture, canvas work, tubes and fence railing. The company's in-house design and product development assures quality construction and functionality on the water.

Located at 1650 Two Notch Road in Lexington, Bentley Pontoons' expansion will increase production capacity due to high demand.

The expansion will be complete in June 2022. Individuals interested in joining the Bentley Pontoons team should visit the company's [contact page](#).



New FBI Field Office coming to Lexington County

Article feature from Post and Courier Columbia, January 19, 2022

COLUMBIA — A new office for the FBI is rising in Lexington and expected to open next year.

The agency shared an update and photos Jan. 19 of the building project, which broke ground in October. When complete, the structure off Sunset Boulevard near downtown Lexington will house the FBI field office for Columbia, which currently is spread among three buildings, according to a statement from the agency.

That will bring field agents and professional staff under one roof.

[READ ARTICLE](#)

— ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT SNAPSHOT —

28

ACTIVE PROJECTS

\$2.193 BILLION

NEW INVESTMENT POTENTIAL

7,207

NEW JOB CREATION POTENTIAL

151,634

JOBS

December 2021 employment for Lexington County is an increase of 10,116 jobs since December 2020.

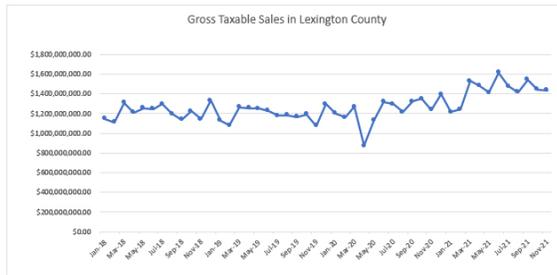
2.6%

UNEMPLOYMENT RATE

Lexington County's rate in December is lower than S.C. (3.5%) and the U.S. (3.7%).

Source: S.C. Department of Employment & Workforce & US Bureau of Labor Statistics

Gross Taxable Sales Staying Strong through November 2021



— RESOURCES —



Follow Us on LinkedIn

In an effort to create increased exposure for Lexington County and to drive attention to our new website, we have created a LinkedIn account for the County of Lexington Office of Economic Development. Follow us on LinkedIn and help us spread the word.



LEXINGTON COUNTY LEADERSHIP

Lexington County Council
 District 1: Scotty "Scott" Whetstone (Chair)
 District 2: Paul Lawrence "Larry" Brigham, Jr.
 District 3: Darrell Hudson
 District 4: Debra B. "Debbie" Summers
 District 5: Gene "Bimbo" Jones
 District 6: Charlene "Charli" Wessinger
 District 7: Beth A. Carrigg (Vice-Chair)
 District 8: Glen M. Conwell
 District 9: M. Todd Cullum

Lexington County Administrator
 Lynn Sturkie

